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## TIPS and HINTS

Here's a tip I've never seen in print: Since most carvers cement light leather to cardboard or brown paper to prevent stretching while being stamped . . . Why not cement them directly to your marble slab? They peel off easily and surplus cement can be rolled off the slab with your hand. I have several slabs in billfold size.

DON P. GROVE  
Loudon, Tenn.

I have made many Western belts and found that using 9 oz. leather often means that two thicknesses of this weight will not go through some of the keepers in the buckle sets. To overcome this, I dampen the billet ends well and then give them a good rolling with an ordinary household rolling pin. This not only reduces the thickness easily and quickly, but it also gives added firmness at the point where the most wear occurs. It will, in some cases, mean that you will increase the width of the billet also, but this can be either allowed for when cutting the billet end or trimmed afterwards. It does not exceed 1/16" in any case.

W. J. RICKETTS  
Whitestone, Hereford, England

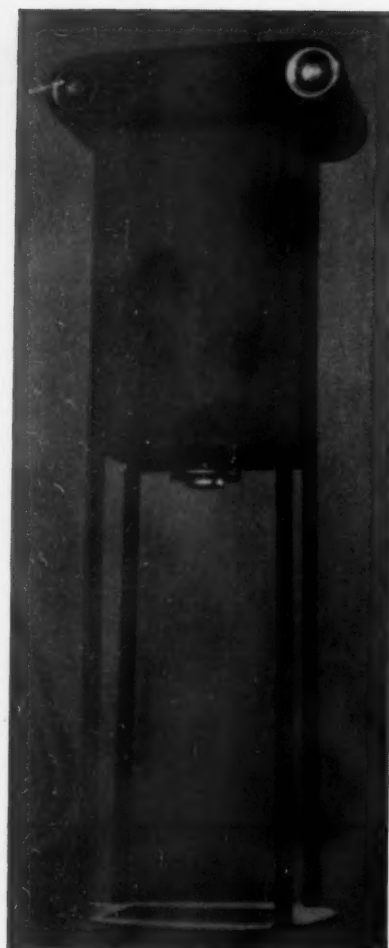
When tooling on calfskin, I have found the best background tool to be Crafttool No. A100. To speed up the backgrounding process, I had my No. A100 shortened to 1 1/8 inches in length, and the shank turned down to a 1/4-inch diameter so that it would fit into the chuck of a Burgess Vibro-Graver.

I imagine this could be done with other stamps. At any rate, it certainly speeded up my tooling.

MISS MILDRED E. GOEPPLE  
Allentown, Pennsylvania

Photographers and photo hobbyists will find that their enlargers can be very useful for leather carving. The tooling pattern can be made into a negative and then placed in the enlarger's negative carrier. The moist leather is then placed on the baseboard so that the projected image can be traced onto it. For landscapes, portraits, etc., a normal negative can be used.

ROBERT H. SHENTON  
Tampa, Florida



# HAND-CRAFTED COPY CAMERA

By STAN SCHIRMACHER

A full size "automatic" camera, for copying polaroid prints, etc., can be made from an old bellows-style No. 116 roll-film camera. "Automatic" because the legs set the camera at the correct distance as well as locate the subject for photographing.

Here's how it is made: the bellows and folding-front is discarded, saving only the lens-shutter. The lens is held facing the label end of a lighted light bulb and its image is focused on a piece of tracing paper until the label is projected full size; then the

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## DEPARTMENTS

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Hand Bookbinding by Aldren A. Watson, Watercolor Landscape by Rex Brandt, Painting Trees & Landscapes In Watercolor by Ted Kantzky, Woodcarving and Whittling Made Easy by Franklin H. Gottshall	No. 1
Mosaics: Principles and Practice by Joseph Young	No. 2
Western Riding Games & Contests by Bob Gray, Championship Barrel Racing by Jane Mayo and Bob Gray	No. 4
Ornamental Designs & Illustrations by J. M. Bergling	No. 5

### DOODLE PAGES

Clock Design by Dick Giehl — No. 1. Series 2-B, Pages 1 & 2: No. 2; Pages 3 & 4: No. 3; Pages 5 & 6: No. 4; Pages 7 & 8: No. 5; Pages 9 & 10: No. 6.

### LEATHER SKIVINGS BY BERT GRIFFIN

Tool Box, Leather Fashions: No. 1. Craft House in a Department Store: No. 2. Rifle Lamp, 4-H Saddler: No. 3. Swivel Key Chain, Home Elevator lined with tooled leather: No. 4. Appalachian Costume Jewelry, Driftwood Furniture, Glass Blowing & Weaving, Oklahoma Foundation for Disabled Adults: No. 5. Christmas Gift Suggestions: No. 6.

### TOOLS, TOOLS, TOOLS BY DICK GIEHL

Safety Beveler and skiving: No. 2. Modelers: No. 3. Alphabet Stamping and variations: No. 6.

### TIPS & HINTS, INCLUDING SMALLER PROJECTS

Too numerous to index. See them in every number.

### NEWS ITEMS

Texas State Fair Results, Eastern Leathercraft Guild: No. 1 Tenth International Assembly at Toronto, New Guild in Buffalo, Prairie States Guild Show in Chicago, Central Ohio Leather Show, 1963 Leatherama, North Star Guild at St. Paul, Greater Jacksonville Fair: No. 2. Listings and dates of Fairs & Shows holding craft competitions: Nos. 4, 5, & 6.

resultant distances are measured.

The distance from the lens to the tracing paper (representing the film surface in the camera) determines the length of the plywood box that is made to fit in the camera's front opening. The distance from the lens to the label on the bulb determines the "length" of the legs to be attached to the box corners.

The inside of the box should be blackened with India ink.

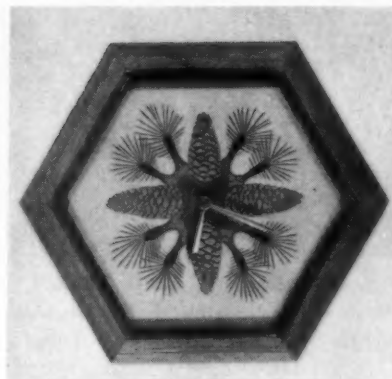
For the first roll, photographing on a newspaper with the leg positions marked (and one leg "identi-

fied") enables you to make a locating mask (cut out of cardboard) as is shown in the photo.

Also, on the first roll, try different shutter speeds and/or lens openings (in open shade).

Another size of copy camera can be made from a #120 roll-film camera. This can become a  $\frac{3}{4}$  size copier, copying a large size polaroid print on the smaller #120 frame.

Two ink marks, an inch apart, are placed on the light bulb and is focused on the tracing paper  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch apart.



## NEW CLOCK DESIGN

By RUSS STARKS

The clock herein described is of my own design (leather only). The frame and working parts are as portrayed in Tandy's catalog and the hexagon kit is of my own choosing for none other than personal reasons and it has more than satisfied us in that respect.

Although I usually have a large supply of leather at home, and so do others that, "make their own," I honestly feel that this kit is an excellent buy since it will eliminate the need to attempt to cut a piece of leather to fit a rather unusual circumference.

By using the kit tracing pattern to gain the placement of the twelve points, I then used the Al Stohlman, "Inverted Leather Carving Book," to promote the pine cone and bow pattern. By using the cones as cardinal points and the bows as intercardinal points, I completely eliminated the numbers normally found on most clocks.

After the carving and stamping is finished, using only the tools listed in the Stohlman book, I dyed the carvings with spirit dye and again I took the "How to Color Leather," by Stohlman, to task and gleaned from this the obvious fact that each piece of leather carved will probably take the dyes slightly different and must surely be tested before disaster strikes.

The needles on the bows are 8 reducer to 1 dye, dark green.

The cones are 8 reducer to 1 dye, dark green, plus 3 medium brown to

(Continued on next page)